

HRC NEWS & VIEWS

Thanksgiving

Volume 6, Issue 11
November 2010

WESEMAN EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

The Employee Recognition Committee is pleased to announce that Kurt Weseman, Food Service Leader was awarded Employee of the Quarter for October, November, December 2010. Congratulations, Kurt!

Kurt's nomination included the following comments, "Kurt is a great leader. He is always willing to help out co-workers when needed and is easy to talk to about concerns on the job. Kurt never has anything negative to say and is always pleasant to the clients. He is a very

dependable worker even in difficult times. Kurt communicates very well with his co-workers on daily updates and listens very well to concerns." The form contained multiple signatures which indicates that his qualities are noticeable to many.

Lisa Sedlak, Food Service Director, agrees with the comments of his co-workers and added "Kurt is an easy going person who relates well with youth and staff. He takes on any task assigned in a positive manner."

Way to Go!



DHHS RECOGNIZES EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



Scot Adams, Director of Division of Behavioral Health,
Henry Potts and Kerry Winterer, CEO

Henry Potts, one of the State employees chosen as DHHS Employee of the Year, was honored at the Governor's Mansion on October 27. Accompanying Henry was his wife, Marva; his Supervisor, Chris Martin; and Marj Colburn, Facility Operating Officer.

The day started at the State Capital Rotunda with Governor Dave Heineman presenting honorees with an Admiral of the Great Navy of the State of Nebraska along with a desk pen set. Following this, a reception at the Governor's Mansion was held. Henry and his guests were then treated to lunch at the Cornhusker Hotel compliments of Bill Gibson, CEO. The afternoon included a dessert buffet at Embassy Suites and a program hosted by DHHS recognizing each of the Employee and Supervisor/Manager of the Year honorees with a special award certificate.

Hastings Regional Center is proud to have Henry Potts recognized for his contributions to the facility as a Mental Health Security Specialist. **Congratulations!**

STILL GETTING READY BY MARJ COLBURN



During the first week of November, Dr. Richard Fields was at the Lincoln Regional Center assisting them in readiness for the Joint Commission Survey. As a former Joint Commission surveyor, Dr. Fields prepared staff for their upcoming survey by participating in document reviews and mock surveys. Many of you may remember him from previous visits to HRC to assist with Medicare issues as well as Joint Commission preparation.

I had the privilege of attending his sessions at LRC to learn as much as I could about the mock survey process. Hopefully this will assist HRC in the mock surveys we will be conducting to make sure we are ready for our Joint Commission survey. I

have pages of notes, and I am coming up with a format to share as much information as possible with everyone.

During November, HRC will also be having an on-site visit by Mercer, an agency that Medicaid has contracted with to ensure compliance with Medicaid standards. At this time it looks like most of their visit will consist of reviewing medical records of current and former youth. We don't have a specific date for the visit as yet, but we will keep you posted.



NOVEMBER IS

Aviation Month

Child Safety and Protection Month

Good Nutrition Month

National Adoption Month

Peanut Butter Lovers Month

Children's Book Week 11/7-14

American Education Week
11/14-21

IS THE REFRIGERATOR GOING TO WIN BY CHERI DELAY



According to Rita Rudner, a very, very wise comedian, some of those of the male persuasion fear that whenever they can't find something in the refrigerator if they have to move something else to search for that special something – the refrigerator will win – an amazing train of thought

Whether you agree with that or not, Sunday, November 14, 2010 is National Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day and that day is drawing near. Our fearless and persistent Safety Coordinator is giving ample warning that on Monday, November 15, she will be going through

all break room refrigerators in Building 3 and disposing of anything she finds that might not be in tip-top fresh shape along with any containers those items are found in. This will include anything that smells odd – anything that has a fur coat growing on it – anything that might be fermenting – anything that might have turned slippery and slimy – anything that might have gotten hard and cracked – anything that has burst from its container and is overflowing – anything that is outdated and especially anything that is beyond recognition.

On a recent inspection in one of the

break rooms, the refrigerator door was open due to the amount of "goodie" bags stuffed in there. This situation makes the refrigerator work harder. Unfortunately, there are no extra refrigerators on campus to replace any that might break down and the budget doesn't allow for a new one which means we need to be very careful about things like this.

So.... . . . please take some time and check to see if you have forgotten some delectable little tidbit that has turned into an objectionable foreign object. Our Safety Coordinator will appreciate it!!



King Size Headboard, mission style, off white. \$20. **Country and Americana décor.** Contact Pam at ext. 3398

'98 Red Pontiac Bonneville with 164K miles. Good gas mileage, clean and lots of miles left. New tires & windshield. Call Jean at ext. 3383 for information.



Ping Pong Tables (all we need is the top). Will be used in dayhalls. **Cake mixes** for PVC. Call Sherry at 3260.

Flame retardant artificial Christmas trees for our day halls. **Green garland, a large wreath and large bows** to decorate building 3 entrance. Call Sherry at 3260

How to Avoid Hitting a Deer While Driving by Jean Luther

The deer population is increasing while the human population is expanding into rural areas, infringing on the deer habitat. It isn't a surprise then that the number of deer-car accidents is increasing, too. Approximately 1.6 million motor vehicle crashes are caused by deer each year, and spike from October through December due to deer mating season, according to the Insurance Information Institute (I.I.I.). These collisions make up over \$3.6 billion in vehicle damage per year, with each incident averaging \$3,000 worth of damage. When human deaths and injuries are added with the damages caused to vehicles along with the cost of insurance claims, car-deer accidents are very costly. Here are some ways to help you avoid hitting a deer when driving.

Preventing a Deer Collision

1. Drive with extreme caution in

areas where deer crossing signs have been posted.

2. Be especially attentive from sunset to midnight and during the hours shortly before and after sunrise. These are the highest risk times for deer-vehicle collisions.
3. If you see one deer on or near the road, expect that there will be more.
4. Do not just rely on high-beam headlights and deer whistles to deter deer - they may not have the desired effect.
5. When possible, drive with high-beam headlights as they will illuminate the eyes of the deer and give you maximum response time.
6. Wear your seat belt and drive at a safe speed.
7. Do not swerve your vehicle to avoid hitting a deer. That may


sound strange, but if a collision with a deer is probable, it is more important to maintain control of your vehicle.

8. Some experts say that in the event you are headed for a collision, you should avoid braking at impact (makes the front of the car go down). Not braking at impact makes it more likely for the deer to pass under the car, as opposed to hitting the windshield. This does not mean you shouldn't brake before the impact.
9. Stay alert, awake and sober. Deer are often unpredictable, especially when frightened, and you will need your quickest response time.
10. Wear your seatbelt. Many people who are injured or killed in deer-car accidents were not wearing their seatbelts

MORE FUN AND GAMES BY MARJ COLBURN



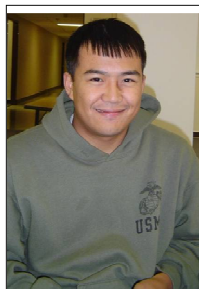
Do you remember the Easter Egg hunt that the News and Views Board held last spring? Remember how much fun it was to look for the eggs and collect a prize? We are doing another version of the Easter Egg hunt, but this time the focus is going to be on Joint Commission!

With a start date not yet decided (but we will send out notices) the News and Views Board will be hiding paper gold crowns 

with questions on the back. The questions are some that surveyors may be asking staff. Staff who find the crowns will need to bring them over to Corinne's office and give the correct answer to the question. There are prizes involved as always! We will be sure to have plenty of crowns available for all of the Buildings in use by HRC. After a few weeks we may reshuffle the crowns between buildings so different

questions can be answered by different staff.

We hope everyone has as much fun with this activity as they did with the Easter Egg hunt. It's going to be a little more challenging, kind of like the Joint Commission crossword puzzle. The more we have everyone prepared for the survey, the better the outcome for all of us. Watch for the notice and let the contest begin!



NEW EMPLOYEE JOINS HRC BY BETH BARTELL

Saysavanh Manivong joined the HJDCP team as a MHSSII in mid-October. Saysavanh recently served four years with the U.S. Marine Corps. In addition to working at HRC, Saysavanh is enrolled in a college program.

Welcome to HRC, Sysavanh!

THANK YOU VETERANS

OF
YESTERDAY
and
TODAY!



2010 EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION TEA MEMORIES

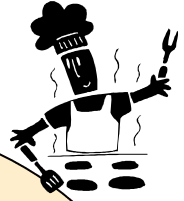
RECOGNITION TEA ENJOYED BY ALL



The Employee Recognition Committee did an outstanding job once again to make the 2010 Recognition Tea an enjoyable event! From the fall décor, painted pumpkins and lovely corsages created by Pam S., the delicious cheese-cake made by Lisa, to the special recognition letters and service awards, it was a **grand** event.

Thank you to all the members of the Employee Recognition Committee for your work and to the Nutritional Services staff for serving and organizing the refreshments.

WE FLIP FOR YOU!



DECEMBER 7

6:00am — 9:00am

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AREA

EMPLOYEE
APPRECIATION
BREAKFAST

STOP IN FOR PANCAKES

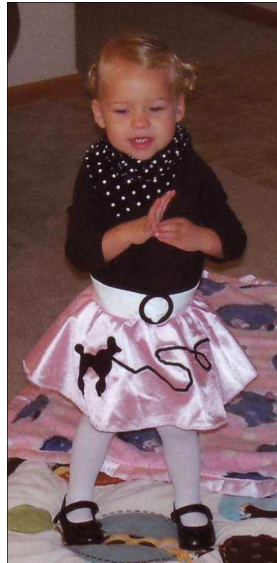
SERVED BY THE
EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

Kicking off the holiday season with food, fun and a special **THANK YOU!** Employee Recognition Committee

TRICK OR TREATERS



Aiden (6), as Iron Man and Maddie (3), as a devil. Grandchildren of Jane Wells.



McKenzie Sidlo (21 months) in her poodle skirt. Granddaughter of Marj & Marv Colburn.



Emily and Tess the family dog practicing their trick for treats. Granddaughter of Sherry Block.

HOLIDAY BREADS by Sherry Block

Youth in the Prevocational Center are taking orders for holiday quick breads. The order blanks are available on the S-drive, "Bread Order Form," and will be available in the mail room in building 3. The choices will include banana, banana nut, pumpkin, cinnamon applesauce, oatmeal raisin nut, egg nog, cranberry, and chocolate. With our long stretch of nice weather, it's hard to believe that the holidays are just around the corner, but they are!

CHAPEL GYM FLOOR BY SHERRY BLOCK

The adhesive that held tiles to the cement floor in the chapel for many years didn't come up easily. After a lot of sweeping and scrubbing and many basketball games, the surface was finally prepped for painting. Youth Counselors, Tracy Polage and Greg Zoucha, led the effort to seal the floor and paint lines for basketball, dodge ball, and baseball. Youth like the new floor and say they don't slip as easily on the sealed surface. Our thanks to Greg, Tracy, Mary Ann and the housekeepers for completing this project!



Left and below: Perimeter lines for games, bases and lettering painted by Greg. Right: Tracy applying sealer to the floor.



HEATH BAR APPLE DIP *from the kitchen of Marlene Petr*

8 oz. Cream Cheese, softened

½ Cup Sugar

¾ Cup Brown Sugar

Teaspoon of Vanilla

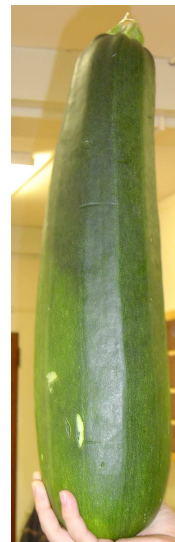
½ bag Heath bar bits (or Skor)

Cream together cream cheese, sugars, and vanilla. Stir Heath bar bits in with spoon.

Best served with Granny Smith or Roma apple wedges.

(Cut apples into pineapple juice to keep from turning brown.)

GUESS THE ZUCCHINI'S WEIGHT



Be the employee who comes the closest to guessing the weight of this zucchini, and you will win a \$2.50 gift certificate to PVC Concessions.

Call Corinne at ext. 3127 with your guess between 11/12/10 and 11/18/10. Leave your name and guess if the phone is not answered.

Give it a try!

SOME SPECIAL DAYS IN NOVEMBER

11/1 National Family Literacy Day

11/4 National Candy Day

11/7 National Daylight Savings Time Ends

11/11 Veteran's Day

11/14 National Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day

11/15 America Recycles Day

11/21 World Hello Day

11/22 Stop The Violence Day

11/25 Thanksgiving Day

STRATEGIC PLAN IS READY!

The Steering Team has completed its final review of the 2010-2011 Strategic Plan. Please take time to read the Plan and direct your comments to Nancy Kinyoun or Corinne Jensen by November 29.

The Strategic Plan is available on the Shared Drive in the folder HRC Evolving Strategic Plan 2010-2011.

Check it out!

HRC EDITORIAL BOARD

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AA/EOE/ADA